

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI
EASTERN DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

VS.

CRIMINAL ACTION NO. 1:05CR124-P-D

**THADDEUS LORENZO PATTERSON and
LORA R. RATLIFF,**

DEFENDANTS.

ORDER OF CONTINUANCE

This matter comes before the court upon Defendant Lora R. Ratliff's Motion for Continuance [34]. After due consideration of the motion, the court finds as follows, to-wit:

Trial is currently set for August 18, 2008. Defense counsel requests a continuance to accommodate a trial previously scheduled on the same date before Chief Judge Mills. Defense counsel also requests more time to prepare for trial in this matter given that Defendant Ratliff has been undergoing a mental evaluation.

The Government has no objection to the continuance.

The above circumstances enable the Court to exclude, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. section 3161(h)(8)(A), the period of delay from August 18, 2008 until the new trial date to be set in this matter. The time is excludable under subsection (h)(8)(A) because, given the circumstances described above, a continuance is necessary to afford the defendant's counsel more time to adequately prepare for his client's defense. As such, the ends of justice served by the granting of this continuance outweigh the best interests of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial. Trial should also be continued pursuant to § 3161(h)(7) because the period of delay is reasonable and the trial has neither run as to co-Defendant Patterson, nor has a severance been granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that:

(1) Defendant Lora R. Ratliff's Motion for Continuance [34] is **GRANTED**;

(2) Trial of this matter is continued as to **both defendants** until Monday, October 20, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in the United States Courthouse in Greenville, Mississippi;

(3) The delay from August 18, 2008 to October 20, 2008 is excluded from Speedy Trial Act considerations as set out above;

(4) The deadline for filing pretrial motions is September 29, 2008; and

(5) The deadline for submitting a plea agreement is October 6, 2008.

SO ORDERED this the 11th day of August, A.D., 2008.

/s/ W. Allen Pepper, Jr.
W. ALLEN PEPPER, JR.
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE